

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-3. (Canceled).

4. (Currently Amended) A printer in which a plurality of types of recording material are usable, comprising:

a an input section operable to automatically input type information representing one of said types of said recording material, wherein each of said types of said recording material has at least one printing region having a shape or a position which is different than said at least one printing region of other types of said recording material, said type information indicates a size and a type of said recording material, and said input section includes an information recording medium for storing said type information;

(b) a controller for designating a printing mode in accordance with said type information, and for printing an image to said recording material in accordance with said designated printing mode, said controller processing said image for laying out said image in said printing region in accordance with said designated printing mode;

c a printer body;

d a loading slot formed in said printer body; and

e a sheet supply container, set at said loading slot removably, for containing said recording material, said information recording medium being secured to said sheet supply container;

f wherein said input section further includes:

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f a first contact pattern for outputting said type information from said information recording medium; and

g a second contact pattern, connected with said controller, for contacting said first contact pattern in response to setting of said sheet supply container at said loading slot.

5. (Original) A printer as defined in claim 4, wherein said first contact pattern is disposed at a front end of said sheet supply container; and
said second contact pattern comprises a pin-shaped contact member disposed in said loading slot and directed toward said sheet supply container.

6. (Previously Amended) A printer as defined in claim 4, wherein said information recording medium comprises a read only memory (ROM);
further comprising a circuit board connected with said ROM and provided with said first contact pattern.

7. (Original) A printer as defined in claim 4, wherein in case of lack of reading of said type information from said input section, said controller generates an alarm signal or inhibits operation of printing.

8. (Original) A printer as defined in claim 4, wherein said printer is connectable with a display device, said display device displays said image being processed, so as to enable checking

of a layout state of said image in relation to said printing region, for confirming said designated printing mode.

9. (Previously Amended) A printer as defined in claim 4, wherein said types of recording material include a standard type and a sticker type.

Claims 10-12. (Canceled) .

C, 13. (Currently Amended) A printing method in which a plurality of types of recording material are usable, comprising steps of:

containing a recording material in a sheet supply container settable in a printer, wherein an information recording medium is secured to said sheet supply container;

connecting said information recording medium with said printer in response to setting of said sheet supply container in said printer;

automatically inputting type information representing one of said types of said recording material by reading said type information stored in said information recording medium, wherein each of said types of said recording material has at least one printing region having a shape or a position which is different than said at least one printing region of other types of said recording material, and said type information indicates a size and a type of said recording material;

designating a printing mode in accordance with said type information;

processing an ~~said~~ image for laying out said image in said printing region in accordance with said designated printing mode;

printing with said printer ~~an~~ said image to said recording material in accordance with said designated printing mode.

C1 14. (Previously Amended) A printing method as defined in claim 13, wherein said information recording medium comprises a read only memory (ROM).

15. (Original) A printing method as defined in claim 13, further comprising a step of, in case of lack of reading of said type information from said information recording medium, generating an alarm signal or inhibiting operation of printing.

16. (Original) A printing method as defined in claim 13, further comprising steps of:
displaying said image being processed; and
checking a layout state of said image in relation to said printing region, for confirming said designated printing mode.

17. (Previously Amended) A printing method as defined in claim 13, wherein said types of said recording material include a standard type and a sticker type.